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26 27 **SENATE BILL NO. 1076**

Offered January 10, 2007 Prefiled January 9, 2007

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding sections numbered 10.1-1153.1 and 29.1-508.2, relating to the adoption of regulations to allow disabled persons increased access to hunting, fishing, and trapping activities.

Patron-Ruff

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding sections numbered 10.1-1153.1 and 29.1-508.2 as follows:

§ 10.1-1153.1. Department to provide reasonable exemptions for disabled persons.

The Department, in coordination with the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, shall adopt regulations authorizing reasonable exemptions that allow disabled persons otherwise complying with the provisions of this chapter increased access to hunting, fishing, and trapping opportunities on lands under the jurisdiction and control of the Department. The Department shall consider any reasonable exemptions for disabled persons including, but not limited to, the taking of wildlife by a manner that would otherwise be prohibited and the use of vehicles or other means of conveyance in areas normally closed to such use.

§ 29.1-508.2. Board to provide reasonable exemptions for disabled persons.

The Board, in coordination with the Department of Forestry, shall adopt regulations authorizing reasonable exemptions that allow disabled persons otherwise complying with the provisions of this chapter increased access to hunting, fishing, and trapping opportunities on lands under the jurisdiction and control of the Board. The Board shall consider any reasonable exemptions for disabled persons including, but not limited to, the taking of wildlife by a manner that would otherwise be prohibited and the use of vehicles or other means of conveyance in areas normally closed to such use.